

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A graphical user interface tool for use in connection with a computer program which can simultaneously display multiple files on a computer display device, each file appearing in a different panel on said display device, said tool comprising: means for allowing a user to invoke said tool in association with a selected one of said multiple files using a computer interface device; means for causing a graphic representation of said tool to appear on said display device responsive to being invoked by said user, said graphic representation comprising a plurality of segments, each corresponding to an operation that can be performed in connection with said selected file; means for allowing said user to select one of said plurality of operations using a user interface device; wherein said means for allowing said user to select one of said operations is responsive to said user positioning ~~said~~ a cursor in a position indicative of a particular segment of said ~~icon~~ graphic representation to tentatively select said operation corresponding to said segment and performing a subsequent act to select said operation corresponding to said segment; means for causing a line to appear on said display device, when said ~~icon~~ graphic representation appears on said display device, said line having a first end point centered on said ~~icon~~ graphic representation and a second endpoint at said cursor; and means for causing said operation to be performed on said selected file.

Claim 2. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 1 wherein said plurality of operations differ depending on the selected file.

Claim 3. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 1 wherein said graphical representation comprises an icon comprising said plurality of segments.

Claim 4. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 3 wherein said icon is circular and said segments comprise arc portions of said circular icon.

Claim 5. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 3 further comprising: means for causing said graphical representation to appear in said panel associated with said selected file.

Claim 6. (Cancelled).

Claim 7. (Cancelled).

Claim 8. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 1 wherein said computer program is a Web browser and said files are Web pages accessed by said Web browser.

Claim 9 (Cancelled).

Claim 10 (Cancelled).

Claim 11. (Currently amended) The tool of claim 6 1 wherein the act of said user positioning said cursor such that said line intersects one of said segments comprises tentatively selecting said operation corresponding to said segment.

Claim 12. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 11 wherein said icon is circular and said segments comprise arc portions of said circular icon arranged such that said line cannot intersect more than one of said arc portions simultaneously.

Claim 13. (Currently amended) The tool of claim 12 wherein, when said line intersects a one of said segments, the appearance of said intersected segment is altered to visually distinguish it from the other said segments that are not tentatively selected.

Claim 14. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 3 wherein said icon further comprises a portion that indicates which of said plurality of panels is associated with said selected file.

Claim 15. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 14 wherein said portion is in the center of said icon.

Claim 16. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 15 wherein one of said operations is transferring said selected file from said panel associated with said selected file to a predetermined other one of said panels.

Claim 17. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 16 wherein said transferring operation comprises transferring said selected file to said predetermined other panel and transferring said file displayed in said predetermined other panel to said associated panel.

Claim 18. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 4 wherein said graphical representation of said tool further comprises a separate horizontal toolbar that duplicates the functionality of said icon.

Claim 19. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 18 wherein, responsive to said tool being invoked, said horizontal toolbar always appears at a same predetermined position in said display device.

Claim 20. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 1 wherein said multiple files are simultaneously active.

Claim 21. (Currently amended) A method of interfacing with a computer program that can simultaneously display multiple files on a computer display device, each file appearing in a different panel on said display device, said method comprising the steps of: allowing a user to invoke said tool in association with a selected one of said multiple files using a computer interface device; causing a graphic representation of said tool to appear on said display device responsive to being invoked by said user,

said graphic representation comprising a plurality of segments, each corresponding to an operation that can be performed in connection with said selected file; allowing said user to select one of said plurality of operations using a user interface device; wherein said step of allowing said user to select one of said operations is responsive to said user positioning said a cursor in a position indicative of a particular segment of said graphical representation to tentatively select said operation corresponding to said segment and performing a subsequent act to select said operation corresponding to said segment; causing a line to appear on said display device, when said ~~icon~~ graphic representation appears on said display device, said line having a first end point centered on said ~~icon~~ graphic representation and a second endpoint at said cursor; and causing said operation to be performed on said selected file.

Claim 22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein said plurality of operations differ depending on the selected file.

Claim 23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein said graphical representation comprises an icon comprising said plurality of segments.

Claim 24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein said icon is circular and said segments comprise arc portions of said circular icon.

Claim 25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 further comprising the steps of: causing said graphical representation to appear in said panel associated with said selected file.

Claim 26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein said step of allowing a user to invoke said tool in association with said selected file associates said tool with said file displayed in said panel within which said cursor was positioned when said tool was invoked, and wherein said method further comprises the step of: allowing said user to move said graphical representation outside of said panel associated with said selected file without switching said selected file.

Claim 27 (Cancelled).

Claim 28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein said computer program is a Web browser and said files are Web pages accessed by said Web browser.

Claim 29 (Cancelled).

Claim 30 (Cancelled).

Claim 31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the act of said user positioning said cursor such that said line intersects one of said segments comprises tentatively selecting said operation corresponding to said segment.

Claim 32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31 wherein said icon is circular and said segments comprise arc portions of said circular icon arranged such that said line cannot intersect more than one of said arc portions simultaneously and wherein, when said line intersects a one of said segments, the appearance of said intersected segment is altered to visually distinguish it from ~~[[the other]]~~said ~~other~~ segments that are not tentatively selected.

Claim 33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein said icon further comprises a portion that indicates which of said plurality of panels is associated with said selected file.

Claim 34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 33 wherein said portion is in the center of said icon.

Claim 35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein one of said operations is transferring said selected file from said panel associated with said selected file to a predetermined other one of said panels.

Claim 36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 35 wherein said transferring operation comprises the steps of: transferring said selected file to said predetermined other panel; and transferring said file displayed in said predetermined other panel to said panel.

Claim 37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein said graphical representation of said tool further comprises a separate horizontal toolbar that duplicates the functionality of said icon.

Claim 38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37 wherein, responsive to said tool being invoked, said horizontal toolbar always appears at a same predetermined position in said display device.